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Finding the perfect babysitter can be a challenge

Many [parents](#) rely on word of mouth when it comes to snagging the perfect babysitter.

But having someone who's available whenever you need them can be a challenge. Adding another level of stress, is when you need a sitter who will watch [your child](#) for a week or more at a time.

But there is a website that can help you find a sitter.

[sittercity.com](#) profiles more than 2 million baby sitters nationwide. Cleveland alone has close to 6,000.

Babysitters can post a profile with their background and experience level, and specify if they prefer to watch infants or older children. It also shows if they've gotten a background check, and you can [read](#) reviews from other parents who have used their services.

Sittercity.com also offers tips on how to pick the right sitter, but adds parents should trust their instincts.

"Make sure you do that in-person interview. Trust your instincts. Have [your kids](#) there. That can tell you a lot about chemistry. Personality is something you can't get on-line," says Melissa Marchwick of Sittercity.com.

Sittercity.com offers a list of questions to ask a potential babysitter, if you don't know what to ask. And the site offers tips on how to find and keep a summer sitter. One piece of [advice](#), is to start early.

There is no charge for a sitter to register on sittercity.com.

Parents have to sign up for a membership. The cost is \$35 a month, or \$140 for a year.

The website says the average [rate](#) for a babysitter in Cleveland is \$10.25. The national average is \$13.